

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
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|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>QUAELLY PAUL B</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND STOWE</u><br><u>320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>NEW YORK NY 10022</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ ADS ]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br><br>Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |
|  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>09/16/2003</u>                    |   |
|  | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                                 |   |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |            |                    | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|--------------------|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V | Amount  | (A) or (D) | Price              |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 09/16/2003                           |  | j <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 2,290,000   | D          | \$0 <sup>(1)</sup> | 15,632,447  | I  | By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. <sup>(2)</sup> |
| Common Stock                    | 09/16/2003                           |  | j <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 710,000   | D          | \$0 <sup>(1)</sup> | 4,845,550   | I  | Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, L.P. <sup>(3)</sup>     |
| Common Stock                    | 09/16/2003                           |  | j <sup>(1)</sup>               |   | 518   | A          | \$0 <sup>(1)</sup> | 22,149  | D <sup>(4)</sup>   |   |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |   | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |     | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----|---|--|--|---|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V |  | (A)  | (D) |   |  |  |   |  |

Explanation of Responses:

- Distributions of shares by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. and Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, L.P. to their respective partners.
- The Reporting Person is one of several general partners of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by such limited partnership. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein, and/or that are not actually distributed to him.
- The Reporting Person is one of several general partners of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, L.P. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by such limited partnership. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein, and/or that are not actually distributed to him.
- The Reporting Person also indirectly beneficially owns (i) 17,790,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. and (ii) 655,555 shares held by WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by each such limited partnership. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein and/or that are not actually distributed to him.

Remarks:

Jonathan M. Rather, Attorney-in-Fact 09/16/2003

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.